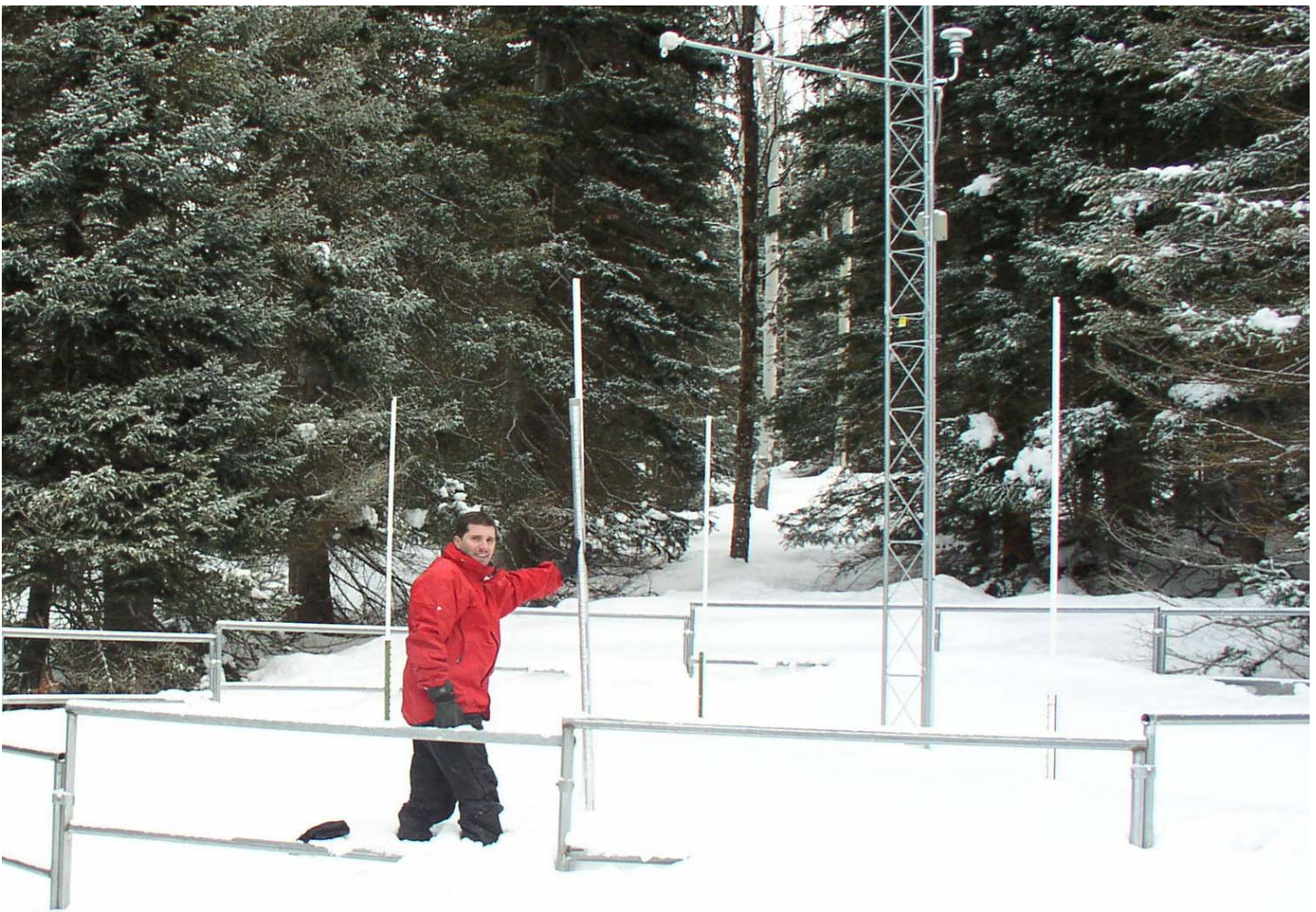


# Utah Water Supply Outlook Report

Jan, 2005



Mike Bricco measures snow at Smith and Morehouse SNOTEL site, December 22, 2004. Photo by Randy Julander

# Water Supply Outlook Reports and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

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Snow Survey Staff, 245 N Jimmy Doolittle Rd, SLC Utah, 84041 - Phone: (801) 524-5213  
Internet Address: <http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

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## *How forecasts are made*

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snowcourses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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# STATE OF UTAH GENERAL OUTLOOK

Jan 1, 2005

## SUMMARY

Water year 2005 has distinct similarities to the beginning of water year 2004 as well as some distinct differences. Last year had some phenomenal storms that jump started the snowpacks across the state and the same is true for this year. In northern Utah on the Bear, Weber and Provo watersheds, current snowpacks (110% to 140%) are a mirror image of last year and that is pretty much where the similarity ends. The Uintah basin and North Slope snowpacks are at 177% of normal, about 50% more than last year. The Uintah basin currently has 6 sites that have over 200% of average snowpack. This area has a 97% probability of at least average snowpack by April 1 and a significant probability of snowpacks greater than 130%. Further south, the Sevier River (172%) and most of southern Utah (246%) have very impressive snowpacks. The Sevier has an 85% probability of at least average snowpack by April 1 and southwestern Utah has an 88% probability. Given average snowpack accumulation over the remainder of winter, these areas will be between 130 and 160% of average on April 1. Both of these areas have current snowpacks similar to the snowpack of 1983 which continued to build through the winter and ended up producing serious flooding across the state. At this point, it is far too early to predict the outcome of this year's snowpack, but if it follows a maximum type pattern, the Sevier and southern Utah could end up with snowpacks ranging from 200% to 300% of normal. The smallest snowpack in the state is in central Utah, in the San Pitch valley which is near average at 103%. Precipitation for December was near average for most of the state except southern Utah which had about 150% of normal, bringing seasonal precipitation, (Oct-Dec) to 153%. Soil moisture was substantially recharged from large precipitation events in late fall and early winter. Current soil moisture across the entire state is only about 10% to 15% less than what it was during active snowmelt of last spring. Estimates of soil moisture range from about 50% to 70% of saturation in the upper 24 inches of soil. Low reservoir storage is also a concern with total reservoir storage at 38% of capacity, the same as last year. The area of greatest drought concern is the Bear River with current reservoir storage at of 2% of capacity. Areas that could have high streamflows include the upper Sevier and the Virgin. Streamflow forecasts range from 50% to 150% of average. Surface Water Supply Indices range from 4% on the Bear River, to 82% on the Virgin.

## SNOWPACK

January first snowpacks as measured by the NRCS SNOTEL system range from 112% on the Bear to 246% in southwestern Utah. Most areas in northern Utah are comparable to last year, whereas the Uintah Basin and everything south of Salina have substantially greater snowpacks. The Midway Valley SNOTEL site currently has 36 inches of snow water equivalent and its April 1 average peak is only 27 inches. Of some concern are low elevation snowpacks across the state, which are below average. Any outcome is still possible, even in southern Utah, but there is a high probability that the upper Sevier, the Virgin and the Uintah Basin will have at least average snowpacks on April 1 and realistically could be 130% or greater.

## PRECIPITATION

Mountain precipitation during December was near average over much of Utah (100%-125%). In southern Utah, precipitation was 150% of average. This brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 153% of average statewide.

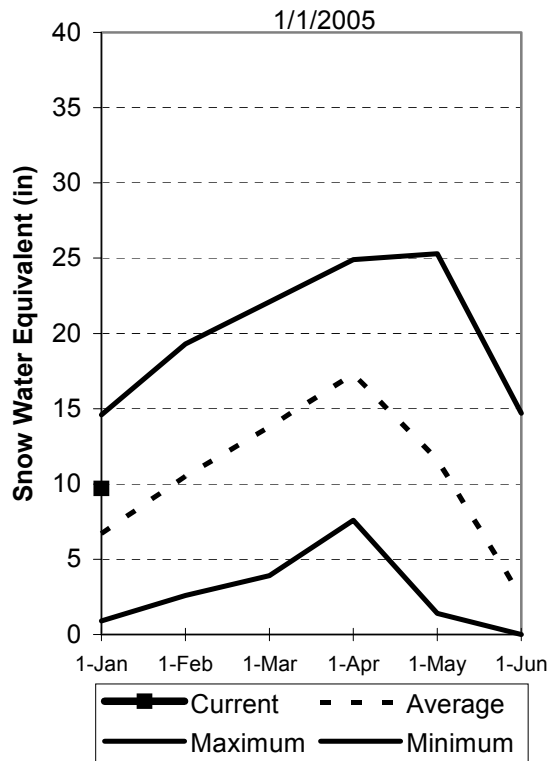
## RESERVOIRS

Storage in 41 of Utah's key irrigation reservoirs is at 38% of capacity. This is the same as last year and reflects heavy use of reservoir storage to make up the streamflow deficit during years of drought. Most reservoir operators are utilizing a conservative strategy, storing as much water as possible.

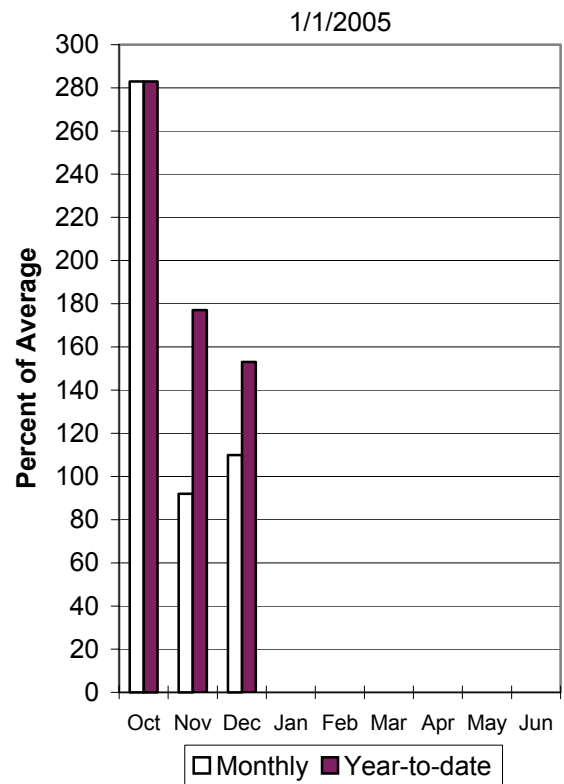
## STREAMFLOW

Snowmelt streamflows are expected to be below average to well above average across the state of Utah this year. Forecast streamflows range from 51% on the Bear at Stewart dam to 238% on Coal Creek near Cedar City. Most flows are forecast to be in the 80% to 120% range. Overall water supply conditions are improving.

## Mountain Snowpack

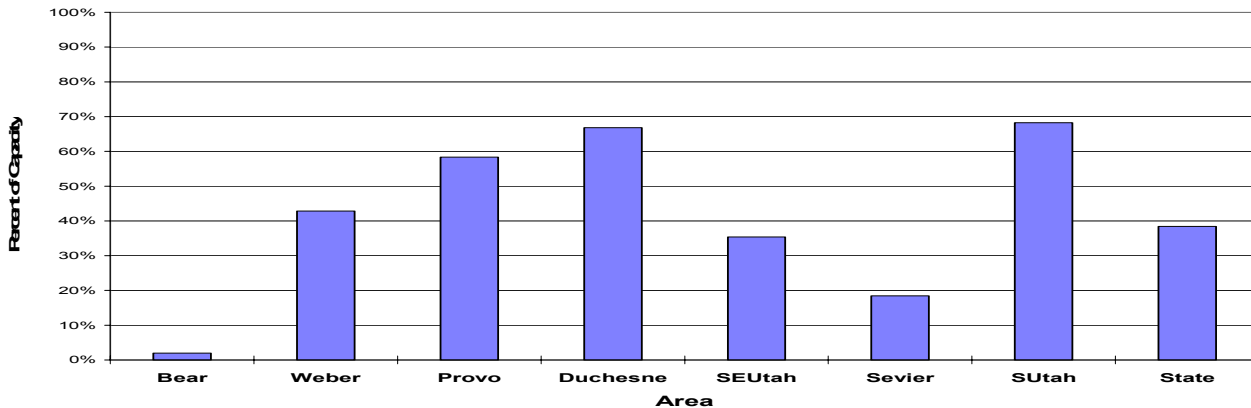


## Precipitation



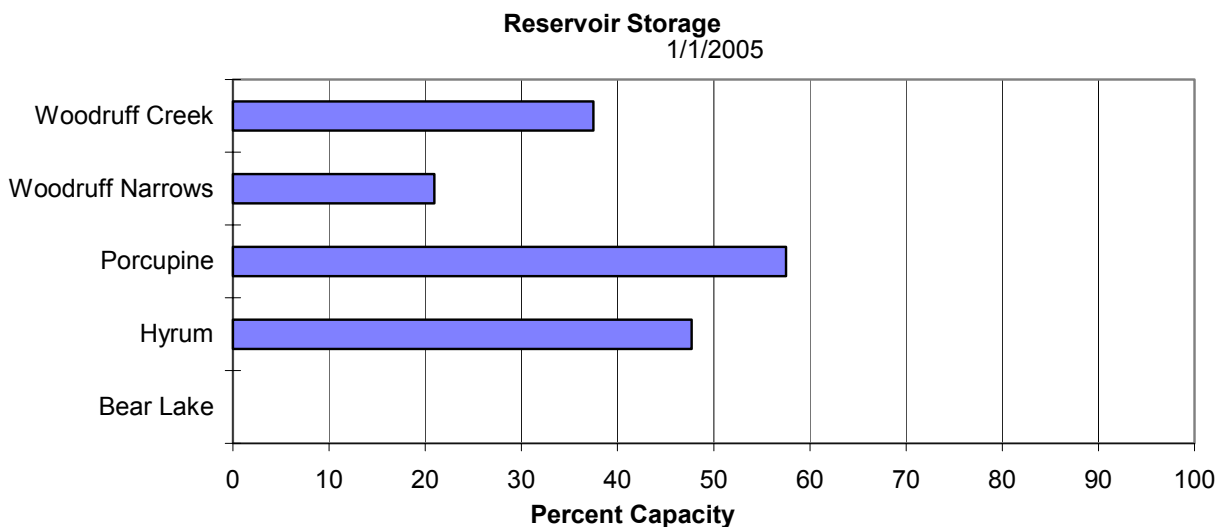
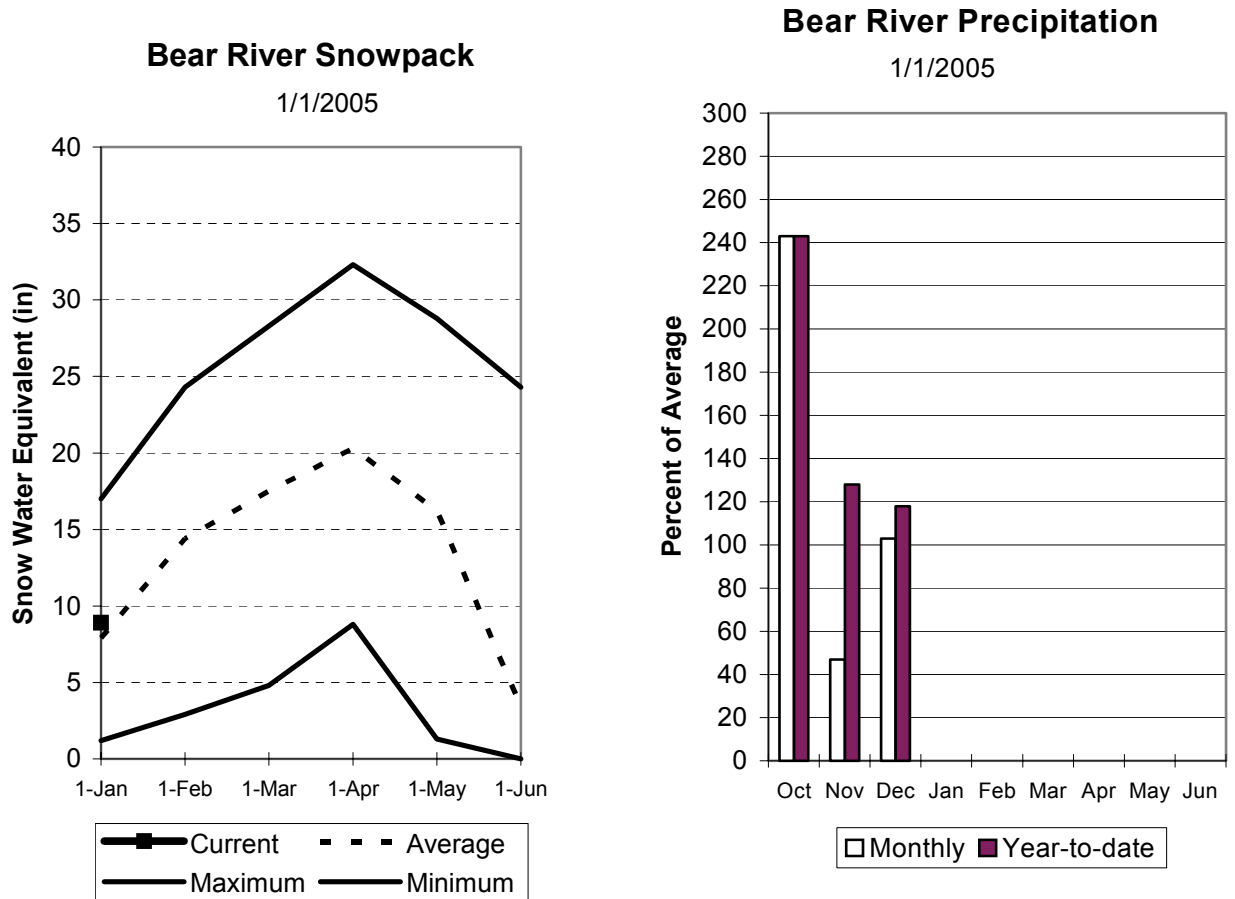
## Statewide Reservoir Storage

1/1/2005



## Bear River Basin Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks on the Bear River Basin are slightly above average at 112% of normal, about 98% of last year. Specific sites range from 60% to 135% of normal. December precipitation was near average at 103%, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 118% of average. Soil moisture levels in runoff producing areas are at 64% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 32% last year. Forecast streamflows range from much below to near average (51%-111%) volumes this spring. Reservoir storage is extremely low at 2% of capacity, the same as last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 4% for the Bear River, or 96% of years have had more total water available. Water supply conditions are much below normal due to low reservoir storage..



BEAR RIVER BASIN  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

		<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Chance Of Exceeding *						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Bear River nr UT-WY State Line	APR-JUL	86	109	125	111	141	164	113
Bear River ab Reservoir nr Woodruff	APR-JUL	63	100	125	92	150	189	136
Big Creek nr Randolph	APR-JUL	2.10	3.60	4.60	94	5.60	7.10	4.90
Smiths Fork nr Border	APR-JUL	58	80	95	92	110	132	103
Bear River at Stewart Dam	APR-JUL	50	88	120	51	157	221	234
Little Bear River at Paradise	APR-JUL	23	36	46	100	58	77	46
Logan River nr Logan combined flow	APR-JUL	63	89	110	87	133	170	126
Blacksmith Fork nr Hyrum	APR-JUL	24	36	45	94	56	73	48

BEAR RIVER BASIN  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

BEAR RIVER BASIN  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
BEAR LAKE	1302.0	0.0	15.7	---	BEAR RIVER, UPPER (abv Ha	6	116	121
HYRUM	15.3	7.3	6.4	10.2	BEAR RIVER, LOWER (blw Ha	8	88	106
PORCUPINE	11.3	6.5	5.0	3.9	LOGAN RIVER	4	94	114
WOODRUFF NARROWS	57.3	12.0	6.0	23.6	RAFT RIVER	1	81	101
WOODRUFF CREEK	4.0	1.5	1.2	---	BEAR RIVER BASIN	14	98	112

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

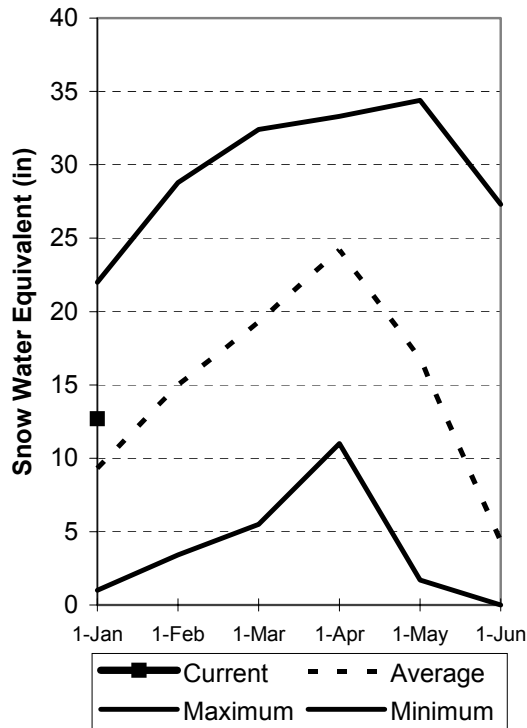
# Weber and Ogden River Basins

Jan 1, 2005

Snowpack on the Weber and Ogden Watersheds is above normal at 136% of average, about 100% of last year. Individual sites range from 81% to 188% of average. December precipitation was near average at 109% bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 139% of average. Soil moisture levels in runoff producing areas are at 66% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 30% last year. Streamflow forecasts range from 92% to 132% of average. Reservoir storage is at 43% of capacity, about 11% more than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 31% for the Weber River and at 54% for the Ogden River. Overall water supply conditions are below to near normal due to low reservoir storage.

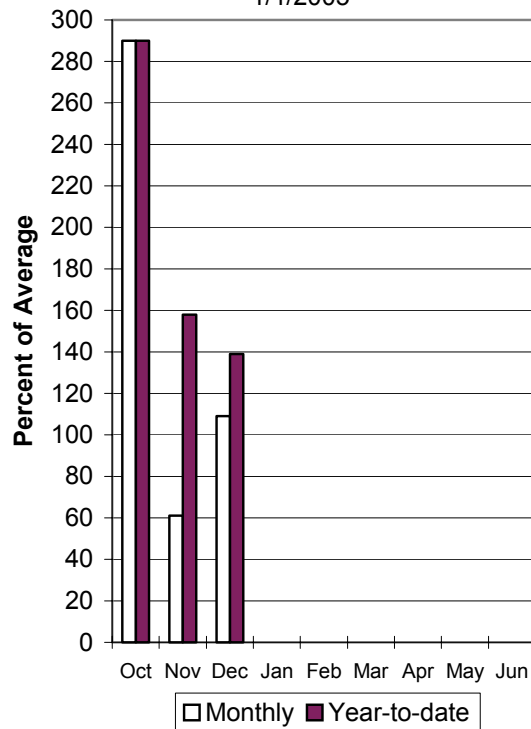
## Weber River Snowpack

1/1/2005



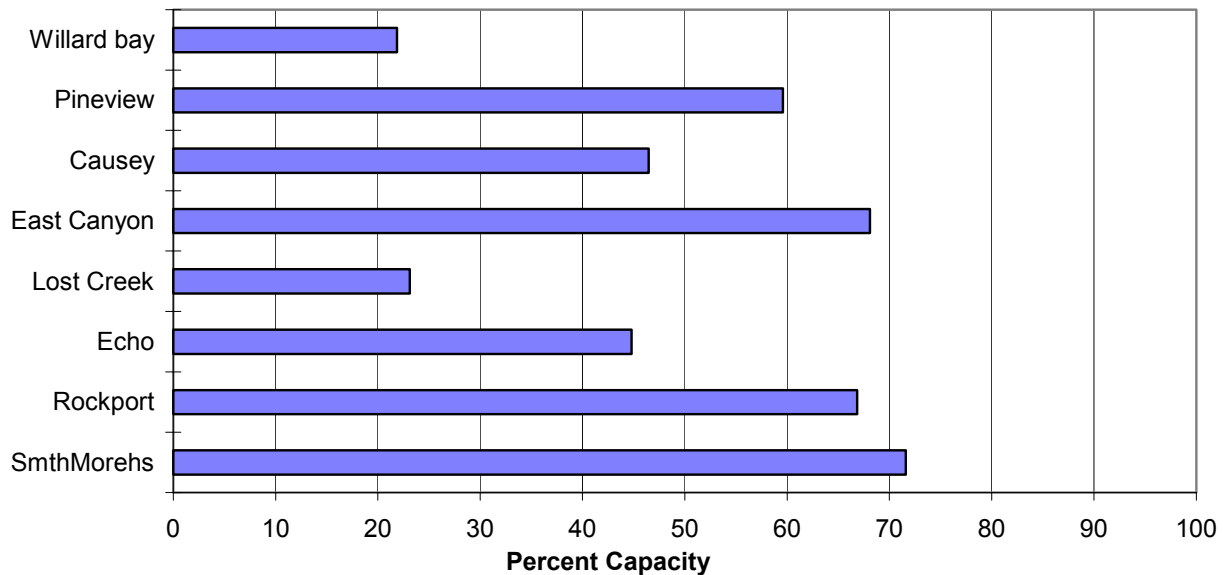
## Weber River Precipitation

1/1/2005



## Reservoir Storage

1/1/2005



WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

		<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Smith & Morehouse Res inflow	APR-JUL	25	31	36	106	41	47	34
Weber River nr Oakley	APR-JUL	94	119	135	110	151	176	123
Rockport Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	91	123	145	108	167	198	134
Weber River nr Coalville	APR-JUL	93	127	150	110	173	206	137
Chalk Creek at Coalville	APR-JUL	22	36	45	100	54	68	45
Echo Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	117	157	185	103	215	255	179
Lost Creek Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	7.1	12.1	16.2	92	21	29	17.6
East Canyon Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	16.7	24	30	97	37	47	31
Weber River at Gateway	APR-JUL	215	300	355	100	410	495	355
SF Ogden River nr Huntsville	APR-JUL	40	58	70	109	82	100	64
Pineview Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	84	117	140	105	163	195	133
Wheeler Creek nr Huntsville	APR-JUL	5.30	7.10	8.30	132	9.50	11.30	6.30

WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CAUSEY	7.1	3.3	2.1	2.8	OGDEN RIVER	4	86	126
EAST CANYON	49.5	33.7	23.9	34.9	WEBER RIVER	9	97	142
ECHO	73.9	33.1	35.5	47.9	WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS	13	94	136
LOST CREEK	22.5	5.2	1.3	14.1				
PINEVIEW	110.1	65.6	27.6	52.9				
ROCKPORT	60.9	40.7	30.4	36.2				
WILLARD BAY	215.0	47.0	42.7	147.7				

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

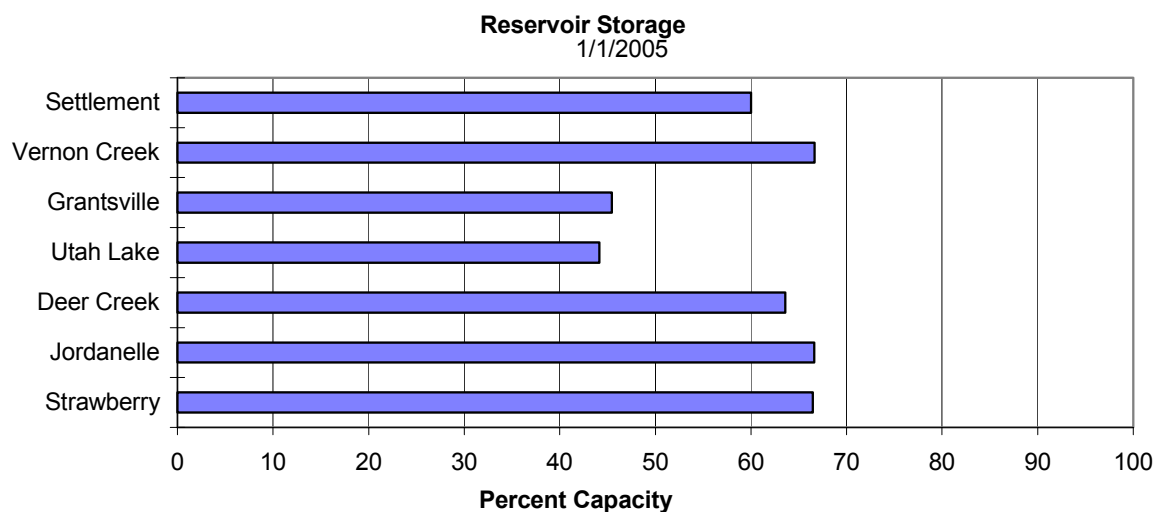
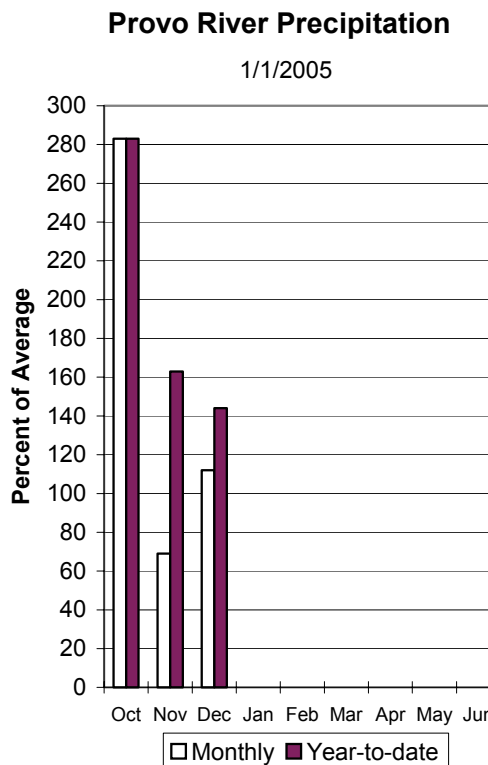
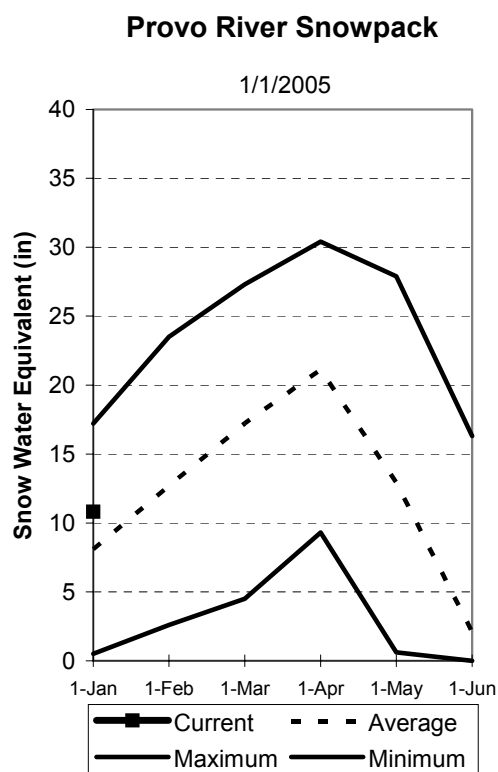
- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.



## Utah Lake, Jordan River & Tooele Valley Basins

### Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks over these watersheds are at 134% of average, 99% of last year. Individual sites range from 53% to 231% of average. December precipitation was near average at 112%, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 144% of average. Soil moisture levels in runoff producing areas are at 71% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 38% last year. Forecast streamflows range from 74% to 127% of average. Reservoir storage is at 58% of capacity, 3% less than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 19%, or 81% of years would have more total water available. General water supply conditions are below normal due to low reservoir storage.



UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions =====		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Spanish Fork River nr Castilla	APR-JUL	24	48	72	94	96	120	77
Provo River nr Woodland	APR-JUL	69	97	111	108	125	153	103
Provo River nr Hailstone	APR-JUL	70	104	121	111	138	172	109
Provo R blw Deer Creek Dam	APR-JUL	64	114	141	112	168	220	126
American Fk R nr American Fk	APR-JUL	19.8	31	37	116	43	54	32
Utah Lake inflow	APR-JUL	156	274	350	108	426	545	325
Little Cottonwood Ck nr SLC	APR-JUL	32	40	45	113	50	58	40
Big Cottonwood Ck nr SLC	APR-JUL	26	35	40	105	45	54	38
Mill Creek nr SLC	APR-JUL	3.60	5.87	7.00	100	8.13	10.40	7.00
Parley's Creek nr SLC	APR-JUL	5.2	14.8	15.3	92	15.8	25	16.7
Dell Fork nr SLC	APR-JUL	1.77	4.48	6.30	93	8.12	10.90	6.80
Emigration Creek nr SLC	APR-JUL	0.63	2.95	4.40	98	5.85	8.20	4.50
City Creek nr SLC	APR-JUL	4.10	7.12	8.90	102	10.68	13.70	8.70
Vernon Creek nr Vernon	APR-JUL	0.61	0.91	1.20	81	1.58	2.37	1.48
Settlement Creek nr Tooele	APR-JUL	0.81	1.16	1.45	74	1.78	2.36	1.97
South Willow Creek nr Grantsville	APR-JUL	2.30	3.40	4.10	127	4.80	5.90	3.23

UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
DEER CREEK	149.7	95.2	54.0	102.0	PROVO RIVER & UTAH LAKE	7	96	122
GRANTSVILLE	3.3	1.5	0.6	1.6	PROVO RIVER	4	100	134
SETTLEMENT CREEK	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.5	JORDAN RIVER & GREAT SALT	6	92	137
STRAWBERRY-ENLARGED	1105.9	735.3	778.9	640.0	TOOELE VALLEY WATERSHEDS	3	97	156
UTAH LAKE	870.9	384.6	428.1	756.5	UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER &	16	94	134
VERNON CREEK	0.6	0.4	0.2	---				

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

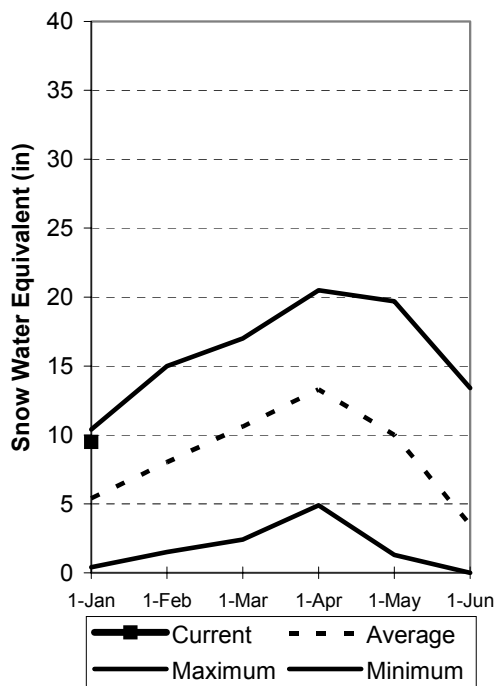
## Uintah Basin and Dagget SCD's

### Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks across the Uintah Basin and North Slope areas are much above average and near record levels at 177%, which is 146% of last year. The North Slope ranges from 93% to 276% and the Uintah Basin ranges from 115% to 257% of average. Precipitation during December was above average at 126% bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 170% of average. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 55% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 30% last year. Reservoir storage is at 67% of capacity, 2% less than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index for the western area is 70% and for the eastern area it is 67% indicating slightly above normal conditions basin wide. Streamflow forecasts range between 108% and 157% of average. Springtime runoff conditions are above normal. There is a 97% probability of getting at least average snowpack by April 1 and a high probability of snowpacks greater than 130% of normal. Preparation for high flows might be considered.

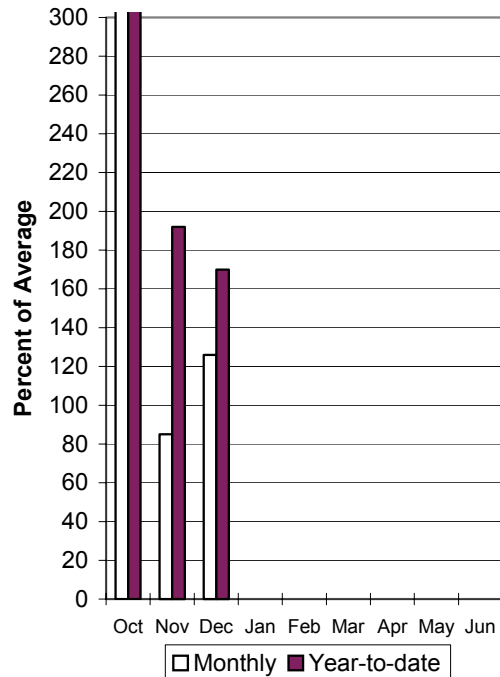
### Uintahs Snowpack

1/1/2005



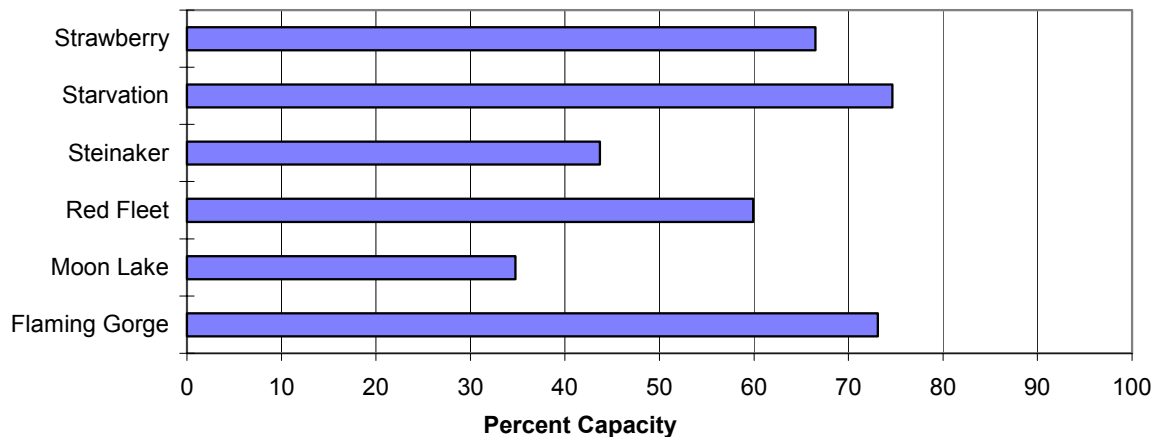
### Uintahs Precipitation

1/1/2005



### Reservoir Storage

1/1/2005



UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		50% (1000AF)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
		Chance Of Exceeding *										
Blacks Fork nr Robertson	APR-JUL	65	83	96	101	109	127	95				
EF of Smiths Fork nr Robertson	APR-JUL	22	27	30	97	34	41	31				
Flaming Gorge Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	675	930	1100	92	1270	1530	1190				
BIG BRUSH CK abv Red Fleet Resv	APR-JUL	18.0	23	26	124	29	34	21				
Ashley Creek nr Vernal	APR-JUL	52	66	75	144	84	98	52				
WF DUCHESNE RIVER nr Hanna	APR-JUL	16.0	23	28	117	34	43	24				
DUCHESNE R nr Tabiona	APR-JUL	79	98	110	105	122	141	105				
UPPER STILLWATER RESV inflow	APR-JUL	69	87	100	122	113	131	82				
ROCK CK nr Mountain Home	APR-JUL	82	98	110	124	122	138	89				
DUCHESNE R abv Knight Diversion	APR-JUL	145	187	215	114	245	285	188				
STRAWBERRY RES nr Soldier Springs	APR-JUL	28	48	65	110	84	117	59				
CURRANT CREEK RESV Inflow	APR-JUL	17.8	23	27	108	31	36	25				
STARVATION RESERVOIR inflow	APR-JUL	69	111	140	116	169	211	121				
Lake Fork River abv Moon Lake	APR-JUL	68	81	90	132	99	112	68				
Yellowstone River nr Altonah	APR-JUL	62	78	88	142	98	114	62				
DUCHESNE R at Myton	APR-JUL	230	310	360	139	410	490	260				
Whiterocks River nr Whiterocks	APR-JUL	53	70	82	146	94	111	56				
DUCHESNE R nr Randlett	APR-JUL	260	410	510	157	610	760	325				

UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
FLAMING GORGE	3749.0	2741.0	2605.0	3027.0	UPPER GREEN RIVER in UTAH	6	143	159
MOON LAKE	49.5	17.2	13.5	26.1	ASHLEY CREEK	2	168	228
RED FLEET	25.7	15.4	12.9	17.5	BLACK'S FORK RIVER	2	115	105
STEINAKER	33.4	14.6	9.5	20.0	SHEEP CREEK	1	157	152
STARVATION	165.3	123.4	123.1	128.6	DUCHESNE RIVER	11	147	184
STRAWBERRY-ENLARGED	1105.9	735.3	778.9	640.0	LAKE FORK-YELLOWSTONE CRE	4	178	198
					STRAWBERRY RIVER	4	103	144
					UINTAH-WHITEROCKS RIVERS	2	192	250
					UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD	17	146	177

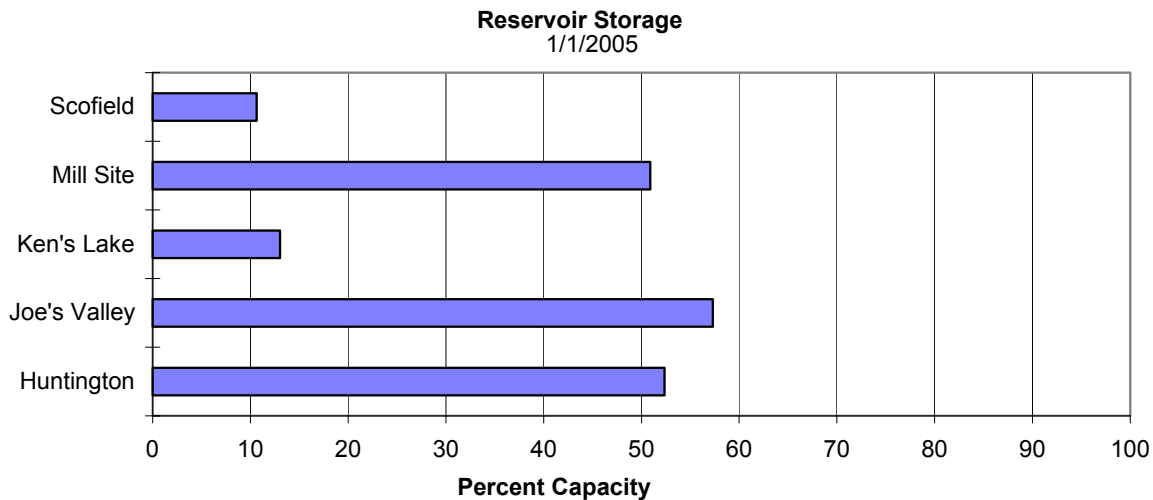
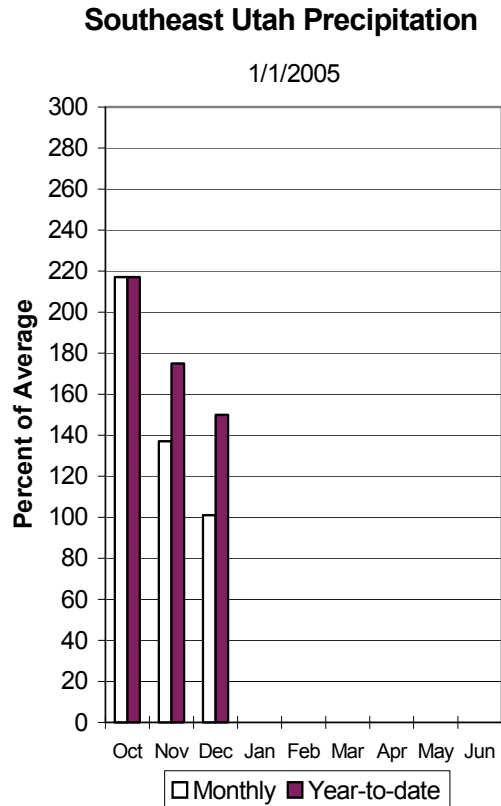
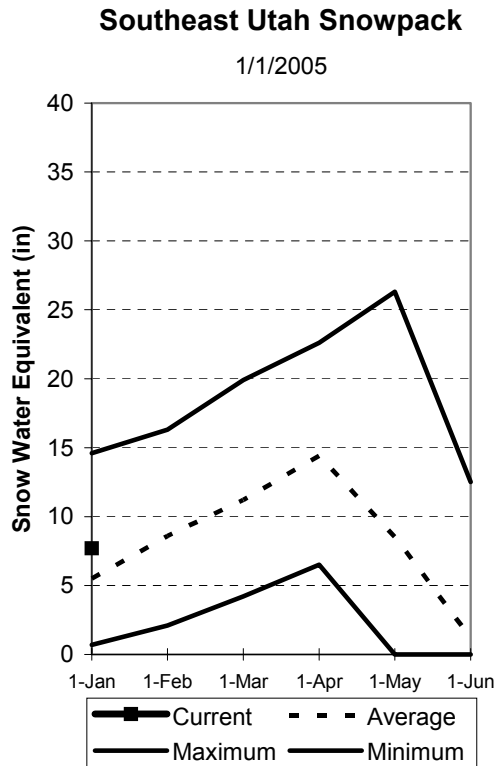
\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

# Carbon, Emery, Wayne, Grand and San Juan Co. Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks in this region are much above normal at 140% of average, about 123% of last year. Individual sites range from 112% to 314% of average. Precipitation during December was near average at 101%, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 150% of normal. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 60% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 30% last year. Forecast streamflows range from 83% to 108% of average. Reservoir storage is at 35% of capacity, down 2% from last year. Surface Water Supply Indices for the area are: Price 25%, (much below normal) San Rafael area 56% (near average) and Moab 50% (near average). General runoff and water supply conditions are below to near normal.



CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		Chance Of Exceeding *					30-Yr Avg.	
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	(1000AF)
Gooseberry Creek nr Scofield	APR-JUL	5.8	9.2	11.5	97	13.8	17.2	11.9
Scofield Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	27	37	44	96	51	61	46
White River blw Tabbyune Creek	APR-JUL	8.6	14.2	18.8	108	24	33	17.4
Green River at Green River, UT	APR-JUL	1790	2570	3100	98	3630	4410	3170
Electric Lake inflow	APR-JUL	6.6	10.9	14.6	93	19.1	27	15.7
HUNTINGTON CK nr Huntington	APR-JUL	24	37	46	92	55	68	50
JOE'S VALLEY RESV Inflow	APR-JUL	27	43	54	93	65	81	58
Ferron Creek nr Ferron	APR-JUL	22	30	37	95	44	56	39
Colorado River nr Cisco	APR-JUL	2410	3540	4300	93	5060	6190	4650
Mill Creek at Sheley Tunnel nr Moab	APR-JUL	2.20	4.50	6.00	120	7.50	9.80	5.00
Seven Mile Creek nr Fish Lake	APR-JUL	3.20	5.50	7.10	101	8.70	11.00	7.00
Muddy Creek nr Emery	APR-JUL	7.7	14.3	18.7	94	23	30	19.9
North Ck ab R.S. nr Monticello	MAR-JUL	0.22	0.70	1.40	144	2.00	3.70	0.97
South Ck ab Lloyd's Res nr Monticell	MAR-JUL	0.84	1.60	2.00	146	3.20	4.90	1.37
Recapture Ck bl Johnson Ck nr Blandi	MAR-JUL	2.10	5.10	7.50	149	13.10	20.00	5.05
San Juan River nr Bluff	APR-JUL	930	1250	1460	119	1670	1990	1230

CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
HUNTINGTON NORTH	4.2	2.2	3.1	2.4	PRICE RIVER	3	102	123
JOE'S VALLEY	61.6	35.3	32.5	41.0	SAN RAFAEL RIVER	3	106	118
KEN'S LAKE	2.3	0.3	0.5	1.0	MUDDY CREEK	1	90	113
MILL SITE	16.7	8.5	6.9	75.0	FREMONT RIVER	3	217	217
SCOFIELD	65.8	7.0	12.8	32.7	LASAL MOUNTAINS	1	93	119
					BLUE MOUNTAINS	1	173	161
					WILLOW CREEK	1	93	134
					CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRA	13	123	140

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

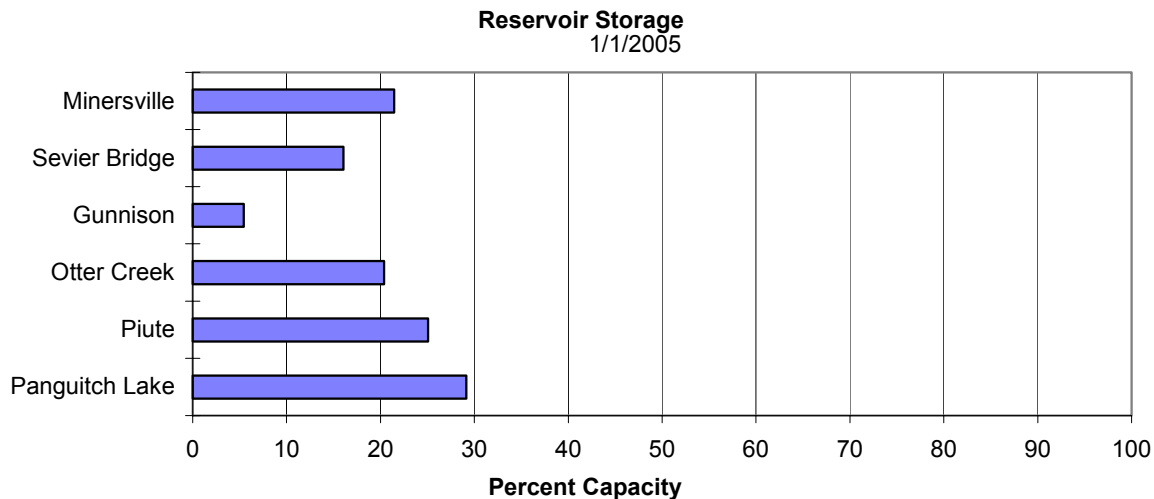
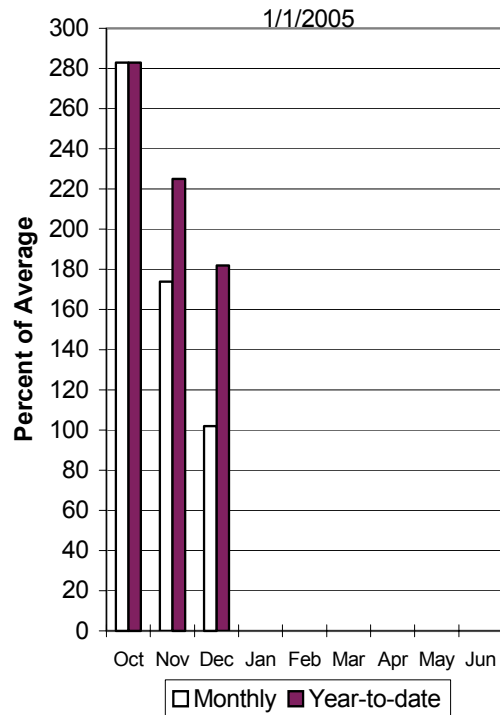
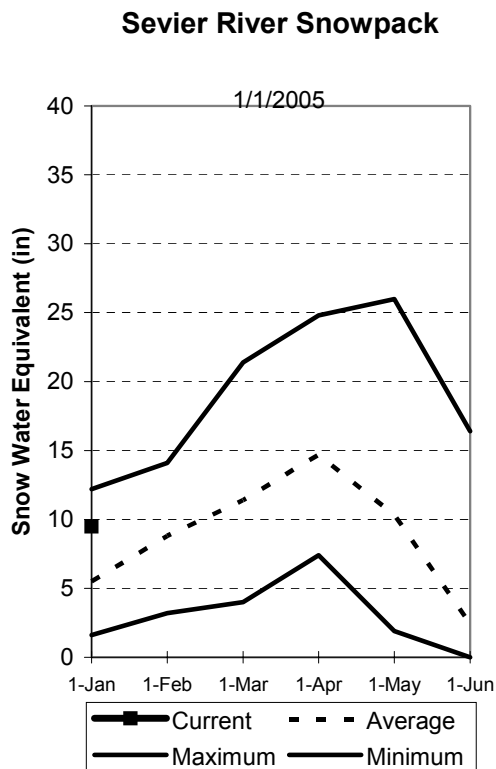


# Sevier and Beaver River Basins

Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks on the Sevier River Basin are much above normal at 172% of average, about 143% of last year. The lower Sevier area is near average at 103%. Individual sites range from 79% to 374% of average. Precipitation during December was near average at 102% of normal, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 182% of average. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 62% of saturation (Sevier) and 21% (Beaver) in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 31% last year. Streamflow forecasts range from 96% to 140% of average. Reservoir storage is at 18% of capacity, 3% more than last year. Surface Water Supply Indices are: Upper Sevier 50%, Lower Sevier 60% and Beaver 54%. Water supply conditions are near average due to high snowpack and soil moisture. The Sevier has an 85% probability of at least average snowpacks on April 1 and significant probability of 130% or more. On the upper Sevier, preparation for high flows might be appropriate.

## Sevier River Precipitation





SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
				Chance Of Exceeding *				
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Sevier River at Hatch	APR-JUL	25	61	77	140	94	101	55
Sevier River nr Kingston	APR-JUL	51	101	121	136	141	148	89
EF Sevier R nr Kingston	APR-JUL	19.0	46	56	147	67	71	38
Sevier R blw Piute Dam	APR-JUL	76	146	177	141	208	215	126
Clear Creek nr Sevier	APR-JUL	9.9	26	31	141	36	38	22
Salina Creek at Salina	APR-JUL	5.2	18.2	27	137	36	49	19.7
Sevier R nr Gunnison	APR-JUL	78	281	365	130	449	510	280
Chicken Creek nr Levan	APR-JUL	1.42	2.88	4.30	96	6.13	9.65	4.50
Oak Creek nr Oak City	APR-JUL	0.96	1.42	1.78	107	2.18	2.85	1.66
Beaver River nr Beaver	APR-JUL	24	31	37	137	43	54	27
Minersville Reservoir inflow	APR-JUL	8.9	15.5	21	127	27	38	16.6

SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
GUNNISON	20.3	1.1	0.0	10.9	UPPER SEVIER RIVER (south	8	201	251
MINERSVILLE (RkyFd)	23.3	5.0	3.6	12.7	EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER	3	210	243
OTTER CREEK	52.5	10.7	13.2	32.8	SOUTH FORK SEVIER RIVER	5	195	255
PIUTE	71.8	18.0	16.4	42.1	LOWER SEVIER RIVER (inclu	6	86	103
SEVIER BRIDGE	236.0	37.9	28.0	148.9	BEAVER RIVER	2	145	155
PANGUITCH LAKE	22.3	6.5	3.8	108.0	SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BAS	16	147	172

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

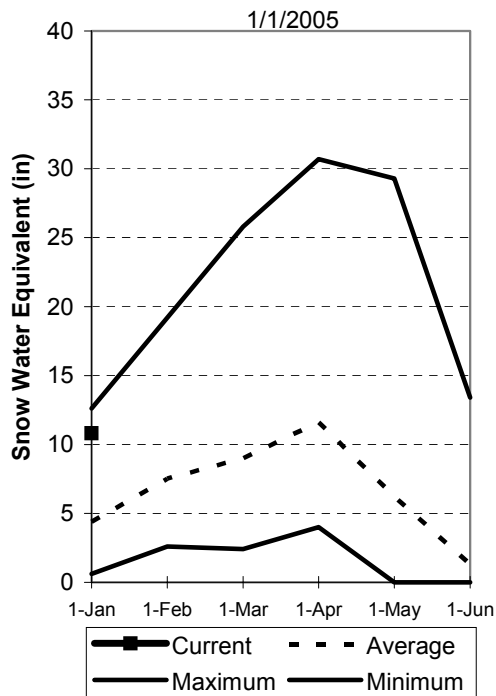
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

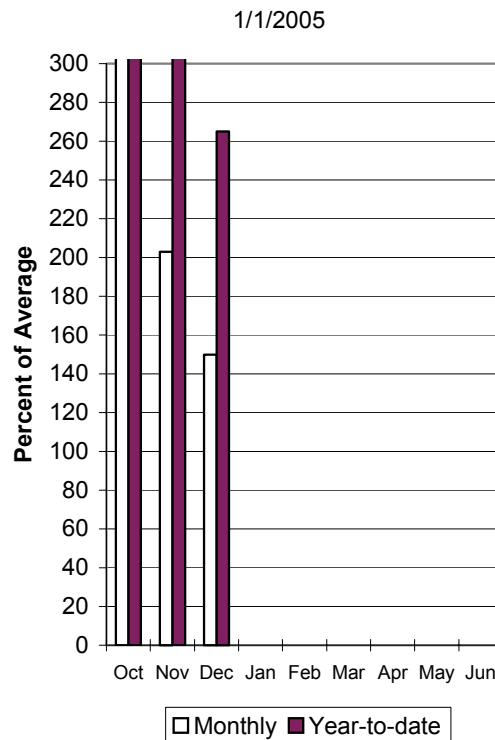
## E. Garfield, Kane, Washington, & Iron co. Jan 1, 2005

Snowpacks in this region are much above normal at 246% of average, about 229% of last year. Individual sites range from 133% to 374% of average. Precipitation was much above normal during December at 150% of average, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Dec) to 265% of normal. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 70% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 30% last year. Forecast streamflows range from 172% to 238% of average. Reservoir storage is at 59% of capacity, 18% more than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 82%, indicating much above normal water availability. While this is only January, concerns over the potential for high flows this spring are increasing. This area has an 88% probability of at least average snowpacks on April 1 and significant potential of snowpacks of 150%.

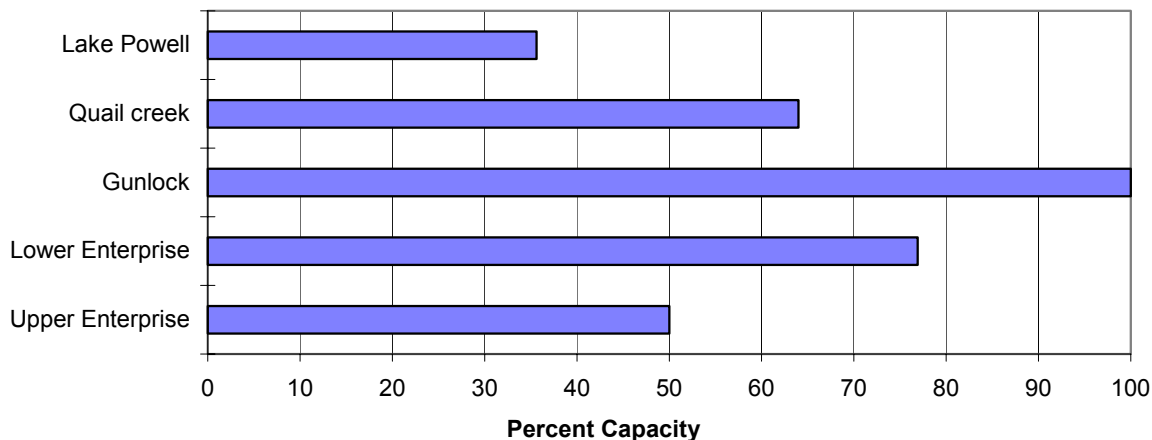
### Southwest Utah Snowpack



### Southwest Utah Precipitation



### Reservoir Storage 1/1/2005



E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.  
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2005

		<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>							
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Chance Of Exceeding *						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)	
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)		
Lake Powell inflow	APR-JUL	4320	6390	7800	98	9210	11280	7930	
Virgin River nr Virgin	APR-JUL	58	85	110	172	134	162	64	
Virgin River nr Hurricane	APR-JUL	43	106	121	175	136	199	69	
Santa Clara River nr Pine Valley	APR-JUL	3.40	7.42	10.00	182	12.96	16.60	5.50	
Coal Creek nr Cedar City	APR-JUL	29	39	46	238	54	67	19.3	

E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.  
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December

E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.  
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2005

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
GUNLOCK	10.4	10.4	3.8	5.7	VIRGIN RIVER	5	210	263
LAKE POWELL	24322.0	8665.0	11471.0	---	PAROWAN	2	265	333
QUAIL CREEK	40.0	25.6	13.5	23.9	ENTERPRISE TO NEW HARMONY	2	270	149
UPPER ENTERPRISE	10.0	5.0	0.0	---	COAL CREEK	2	255	295
LOWER ENTERPRISE	2.6	2.0	0.4	26.7	ESCALANTE RIVER	2	266	246
					E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHIN	9	227	246

\* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.  
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

<b>UTAH SURFACE</b>	<b>WATER</b>	<b>SUPPLY</b>	<b>INDEX</b>
<b>Snow Surveys</b>	<b>NRCS</b>	<b>USDA</b>	
<b>Basin or Region</b>	<b>SWSI/%</b>	<b>Percentile</b>	<b>Years with</b>
<b>1-Jan-05</b>			<b>Similar SWSI</b>
<b>Bear River</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>04,03,93</b>
<b>Ogden River</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>89,93,96,95</b>
<b>Weber River</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>87,00,89,94</b>
<b>Provo</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>56,03,55,59</b>
<b>West Uintah Basin</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>02,96,86,01</b>
<b>East Uintah Basin</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>93,85,99,84</b>
<b>Price River</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>59,02,03,89</b>
<b>San Rafael</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>00,74,82,98</b>
<b>Moab</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>82,91,94,97</b>
<b>Upper Sevier River</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>76,75,01,74</b>
<b>Lower Sevier River</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>00,75,81,70</b>
<b>Beaver River</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>96,78,74,81</b>
<b>Virgin River</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>92,88,98,95</b>
<b>Snow Surveys</b>			<b>SWSI Scale: -4 to 4</b>
<b>245 N Jimmy Doolittle Rd</b>			<b>Percentile: 0 - 100%</b>
<b>Salt Lake City, UT</b>			
<b>(801) 524-5213</b>			

# What is a Surface Water Supply Index?

**The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI)** is a predictive indicator of total surface water availability within a watershed for the spring and summer water use seasons. The index is calculated by combining pre-runoff reservoir storage (carryover) with forecasts of spring and summer streamflow which are based on current snowpack and other hydrologic variables. SWSI values are scaled from +4.1 (abundant supply) to -4.1 (extremely dry) with a value of zero (0) indicating media water supply as compared to historical analysis. SWSI's are calculated in this fashion to be consistent with other hydroclimatic indicators such as the Palmer Drought Index and the Precipitation index.

Utah Snow Surveys has also chosen to display the SWSI as a PERCENT CHANCE OF NON-EXCEEDANCE. While this is a very cumbersome name, it has the simplest application. It can be best thought of as a simple scale of 1 to 99 with 1 being the drought of record (driest possible conditions) and 99 being the flood of record (wettest possible conditions) and a value of 50 representing average conditions. This rating scale is a percentile rating as well, for example a SWSI of 75% means that this years water supply is greater than 75% of all historical events and that only 25% of the time has it been exceeded. Conversely a SWSI of 10% means that 90% of historical events have been greater than this one and that only 10% have had less total water supply. This scale is far more intuitive for most people and is totally comparable between basins: a SWSI of 50% means the same relative ranking on watershed A as it does on watershed B, which may not be strictly true of the +4 to -4 scale.

In general terms, the scale is divided into 3 parts: LOW - AVERAGE - HIGH. 1 to 33 means below normal water supply, 34 to 66 means average conditions and 67 to 99 means above average water supply amounts.

Another benefit to the SWSI is in the calculation table or the actual ranking of each individual year. The current SWSI can be directly compared to the years it most closely resembles. In other words, is the current year similar to the familiar floods of 1983 or the drought of 1977. Managers can then refer to records from those particular years in determining strategies for dealing with the current years water supply. Also evident is whether the streamflow component or the reservoir component is the predominant driving force at any given time.

SWSI's can be an excellent water management tool in determining overall risk and management strategies. It gives the water user and manager more information than simply streamflow or reservoir level alone.

## S N O W   C O U R S E   D A T A

JANUARY 2005

SNOW COURSE	ELEV.	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
AGUA CANYON SNOTEL	8900	1/01	35	7.4	3.0	2.9
ALTA CENTRAL	8800	12/28	63	20.2	20.0	16.5
BEAVER DAMS SNOTEL	8000	1/01	18	3.4	4.3	4.3
BEAVER DIVIDE SNOTEL	8280	1/01	34	4.9	4.8	4.7
BEN LOMOND PK SNOTEL	8000	1/01	-	22.4	23.6	14.5
BEN LOMOND TR SNOTEL	6000	1/01	36	8.6	16.3	8.5
BEVAN'S CABIN	6450				-	4.2
BIG FLAT SNOTEL	10290	1/01	56	12.6	7.5	7.6
BIRCH CROSSING	8100				-	2.8
BLACK FLAT-U.M. CK S	9400	1/01	28	5.8	5.4	3.8
BLACK'S FORK GS-EF	9340				-	3.3
BLACK'S FORK JUNCTN	8930				-	3.7
BOX CREEK SNOTEL	9800	1/01	43	9.4	7.3	5.3
BRIAN HEAD	10000				-	8.2
BRIGHTON SNOTEL	8750	1/01	70	13.7	11.2	10.9
BRIGHTON CABIN	8700	12/28	47	13.4	13.2	11.5
BROWN DUCK SNOTEL	10600	1/01	86	17.0	8.1	7.7
BRYCE CANYON	8000				2.8	2.1
BUCK FLAT SNOTEL	9800	1/01	36	8.3	8.6	7.2
BUCK PASTURE	9700				-	-
BUCKBOARD FLAT	9000				-	5.4
BUG LAKE SNOTEL	7950	1/01	47	8.8	9.2	8.3
BURT'S-MILLER RANCH	7900				-	2.2
CAMP JACKSON SNOTEL	8600	1/01	27	9.0	5.2	5.6
CASCADE MOUNTAIN SNO	7770	1/01	29	8.9	12.0	-
CASTLE VALLEY SNOTEL	9580	1/01	59	12.6	6.4	4.9
CHALK CK #1 SNOTEL	9100	1/01	62	12.9	9.7	10.1
CHALK CK #2 SNOTEL	8200	1/01	42	7.3	6.9	6.7
CHALK CREEK #3	7500				-	3.5
CHEPETA SNOTEL	10300	1/01	82	15.4	6.8	6.0
CLAYTON SPRINGS SNTL	10000	1/01	51	11.7	5.4	-
CLEAR CK RIDG #1 SNT	9200	1/01	48	9.6	9.3	7.7
CLEAR CK RIDG #2 SNT	8000	1/01	36	4.6	7.4	6.0
CORRAL	8200				-	-
CURRANT CREEK SNOTEL	8000	1/01	35	5.8	6.4	4.2
DANIELS-STRAWBERRY S	8000	1/01	42	9.0	9.4	6.5
DILL'S CAMP SNOTEL	9200	1/01	38	6.2	6.9	5.5
DONKEY RESERVOIR SNO	9800	1/01	36	6.9	2.4	4.0
DRY BREAD POND SNTL	8350	1/01	50	9.2	11.6	9.1
DRY FORK SNOTEL	7160	1/01	18	4.0	8.8	6.9
EAST WILLOW CREEK SN	8250	1/01	26	3.9	4.2	2.9
FARMINGTON U. SNOTEL	8000	1/01	69	24.5	23.8	13.0
FARMINGTON LOWER SC	6950				-	10.4
FARMINGTON L. SNOTEL	6780	1/01	39	11.6	19.4	-
FARNSWORTH LK SNOTEL	9600	1/01	41	9.9	8.9	8.0
FISH LAKE	8700				-	2.9
FIVE POINTS LAKE SNO	10920	1/01	82	14.9	8.6	7.0
G.B.R.C. HEADQUARTER	8700				-	-
G.B.R.C. MEADOWS	10000				-	9.7
GARDEN CITY SUMMIT	7600				-	6.5
GARDNER PEAK SNOTEL	8350	1/01	37	8.9	-	-
GEORGE CREEK	8840				-	-
GOOSEBERRY R.S.	8400				-	5.1
GOOSEBERRY R.S. SNTL	7900	1/01	14	3.3	5.3	3.6
GUTZ PEAK SNOTEL	6820	1/01	30	8.9	-	-
HARDSCRABBLE SNOTEL	7250	1/01	40	9.8	14.0	6.5
HARRIS FLAT SNOTEL	7700	1/01	21	5.2	3.3	2.5
HAYDEN FORK SNOTEL	9100	1/01	46	8.5	5.8	6.3
HENRY'S FORK	10000				-	-
HEWINTA SNOTEL	9500	1/01	21	3.8	4.1	4.1
HICKERSON PARK SNTL	9100	1/01	21	4.4	2.8	2.9
HIDDEN SPRINGS	5500	12/28	5	2.0	6.8	.2
HOBBLE CREEK SUMMIT	7420				-	6.1
HOLE-IN-ROCK SNOTEL	9150	1/01	22	3.9	3.2	2.7
HORSE RIDGE SNOTEL	8260	1/01	56	12.3	10.3	9.3
HUNTINGTON-HORSESHOE	9800				-	9.7
INDIAN CANYON SNOTEL	9100	1/01	38	9.0	6.1	4.4
SNOW COURSE	ELEV.	DATE	SNOW	WATER	LAST	AVERAGE

			DEPTH	CONTENT	YEAR	71-00
JOHNSON VALLEY	8850				-	2.7
JONES CORRAL G.S.	9720				-	-
KILFOIL CREEK	7300				-	5.5
KILLYON CANYON	6300	12/29	12	2.7	9.4	5.1
KIMBERLY MINE SNOTEL	9300	1/01	36	7.2	7.4	6.0
KING'S CABIN SNOTEL	8730	1/01	40	9.4	7.2	5.0
KLONDIKE NARROWS	7400				-	7.5
KOLOB SNOTEL	9250	1/01	68	16.6	8.8	6.9
LAKEFORK #1 SNOTEL	10100	1/01	66	11.8	6.3	5.6
LAKEFORK BASIN SNTL	10900	1/01	76	12.8	8.8	8.2
LAKEFORK MOUNTAIN #3	8400				-	2.8
LAMBS CANYON	7400	12/29	32	7.4	-	7.4
LASAL MOUNTAIN LOWER	8800				-	3.8
LASAL MOUNTAIN SNTL	9850	1/01	21	5.6	6.0	4.7
LIGHTNING RIDGE SNTL	8220	1/01	44	9.6	-	-
LILY LAKE SNOTEL	9050	1/01	35	6.2	5.6	5.5
LITTLE BEAR LOWER	6000				-	4.3
LITTLE BEAR SNOTEL	6550	1/01	24	5.3	8.5	5.2
LITTLE GRASSY SNOTEL	6100	1/01	-	2.8	0.2	2.1
LONG FLAT SNOTEL	8000	1/01	-	4.5	2.5	2.8
LONG VALLEY JCT. SNT	7500	1/01	14	2.9	3.4	1.8
LOOKOUT PEAK SNOTEL	8200	1/01	58	15.2	18.0	9.9
LOST CREEK RESERVOIR	6130				-	2.0
LOUIS MEADOW SNOTEL	6700	1/01	30	6.9	14.7	-
MAMMOTH-COTTONWD SNT	8800	1/01	31	8.3	9.0	7.6
MERCHANT VALLEY SNTL	8750	1/01	34	7.5	6.4	5.4
MIDDLE CANYON	7000				-	5.9
MIDWAY VALLEY SNOTEL	9800	1/01	90	33.7	11.1	9.0
MILL CREEK	6950	12/29	27	6.8	-	8.3
MILL-D NORTH SNOTEL	8960	1/01	52	16.0	13.7	10.3
MILL-D SOUTH FORK	7400	12/28	31	8.0	11.7	8.6
MINING FORK SNOTEL	8000	1/01	43	12.7	11.1	5.5
MONTE CRISTO SNOTEL	8960	1/01	62	14.1	11.7	11.0
MOSBY MTN. SNOTEL	9500	1/01	56	12.3	7.6	5.1
MT.BALDY R.S.	9500				-	9.9
MUD CREEK #2	8600				-	5.3
OAK CREEK	7760				-	-
PANGUITCH LAKE R.S.	8200				-	-
PARLEY'S CANYON SNTL	7500	1/01	34	5.8	9.7	7.2
PARRISH CREEK SNOTEL	7740	1/01	46	12.7	17.9	-
PAYSON R.S. SNOTEL	8050	1/01	40	7.4	8.4	7.2
PICKLE KEG SNOTEL	9600	1/01	26	5.4	7.4	6.2
PINE CREEK SNOTEL	8800	1/01	-	9.4	11.0	8.8
RED PINE RIDGE SNTL	9200	1/01	39	7.5	7.3	6.7
REDDEN MINE LOWER	8500				-	6.7
REES'S FLAT	7300				-	5.6
ROCK CREEK SNOTEL	7900	1/01	-	4.8	4.8	3.7
ROCKY BN-SETTLEMT SN	8900	1/01	41	12.6	11.6	10.0
SEELEY CREEK SNOTEL	10000	1/01	35	8.1	6.7	6.4
SMITH MOREHOUSE SNTL	7600	1/01	34	6.4	5.6	5.7
SNOWBIRD SNOTEL	9700	1/01	90	25.1	18.3	13.2
SPIRIT LAKE	10300				-	5.5
SQUAW SPRINGS	9300				-	3.2
STEEL CREEK PARK SNO	10100	1/01	38	7.5	5.7	6.7
STILLWATER CAMP	8550				-	3.9
STRAWBERRY DIVIDE SN	8400	1/01	48	8.5	9.5	7.4
SUSC RANCH	8200				-	2.8
TALL POLES	8800				-	5.3
TEMPLE FORK SNOTEL	7410	1/01	43	8.4	8.4	-
THAYNES CANYON SNTL	9200	1/01	78	18.1	11.0	9.0
THISTLE FLAT	8500				-	-
TIMBERLINE	9100				-	-
TIMPANOGOS DIVIDE SN	8140	1/01	62	13.7	13.2	9.2
TONY GROVE LK SNOTEL	8400	1/01	71	18.0	17.1	14.3
TONY GROVE R.S.	6250				-	5.0
TRIAL LAKE	9960				-	9.8
TRIAL LAKE SNOTEL	9960	1/01	68	13.8	10.7	10.5
TROUT CREEK SNOTEL	9400	1/01	48	11.6	5.3	4.2
UPPER JOES VALLEY	8900				-	4.1
VERNON CREEK SNOTEL	7500	1/01	30	5.1	8.7	4.0
VIPONT	7670				-	-
WEBSTER FLAT SNOTEL	9200	1/01	39	10.6	6.3	6.0
WHITE RIVER #1 SNTL	8550	1/01	36	7.3	6.4	5.2
WHITE RIVER #3	7400				-	3.5
WIDTSOE #3 SNOTEL	9500	1/01	48	13.8	4.4	4.4
WRIGLEY CREEK	9000				-	4.3
YANKEE RESERVOIR	8700				-	3.7



*Issued by*

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YOU MAY OBTAIN THIS PRODUCT AS WELL AS CURENT SNOW, PRECIPITATION,  
TEMPERATURE AND SOIL MOISTURE, RESERVOIR, SURFACE WATER SUPPLY INDEX, AND  
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<http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

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# **Utah Water Supply Outlook Report**

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Salt Lake City, UT

